(b) A meeting was taken by the Cabinet Secretary on 17th March, 1994 to discuss accounts receivables of NTPC and Power Grid Corporation of India.

(d) The main course of action is NTPC's inability to contain its accounts receivables from purchasers of power to the equivalent of two months billing as covenanted with the Bank by NTPC. In addition, the tariff for NTPC's gas-based power stations and for NCTPP and Unchahar coal-based stations have to be notified and Bulk Power Supply Agreements (BPSAs) for the remaining Northern Region have to be signed by 30th April, 1994.

(c) and (e) Strenuous efforts are being made to demonstrate that NTPC can contain its accounts receivable to the covenanted levels on a sustained basis and these include persuading States to liquidate arrears, fully pay current billing, increase LC coverage etc. BPSAs have been entered into with all the States of the Northern Region. The tariff for NCTPP and Unchahar coal-based stations have been notified. The tariff for gas-based stations are in an advanced stage of finalisation. With these actions it is expected that the disbursements would recommence otherwise NTPC's investment programme would be adversely affected.

(f) All the units of Farakka Stage-I of 600 MW (3×200 MW), Farakka Stage-II of 1000 MW (2×500 MW), Anta Gas Power Project Stage-I of 413 MW (3×88 MW Gas Turbine and 1×149 MW Steam Turbine), National Capital Thermal Power Project of 840 MW (4×210 MW) at Delhi, and the Dadri Gas Based Power Project Stage-I of 817 MW (4×131 MW Gas Turbine and 2×146.5 MW Steam Turbine) have been commissioned.

The 2×500 MW units of Talcher Project are scheduled for commissioning in June, 1994 and in June, 1995 respectively.

Indian Entrepreneurs in Power Sector

3842. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage Indian entrepreneurs to build power plants by arranging easier finance for them;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals;

(c) how many entrepreneurs failed to receive approvals for power plants in last two years, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the system of selecting and screening the applicants to establish power stations will be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Government policy to encourage private participation in power is meant for Indian entrepreneurs as well as foreign entrepreneurs. The responsibility to arrange finance is that of the promoter.

(c) No proposal in which all inputs/clearances were tied up and the cost found reasonable was rejected by Central Electricity Authority. In the last 2 years, proposals for setting up 21 thermal power projects and 6 hydro-electric projects in private sector were received by CEA. Out of these 7 (seven) projects have been accorded CEA's clearance subject to certain conditions. The remaining schemes would be taken up for CEA's techno-economic clearance after the promoters furnish the necessary clearance/inputs required for examining the proposal.

(d) The private power policy is reviewed from time to time as and when necessity arises.

राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम के कामगारों को स्वैच्छिक सेवानिवृत्ति होने पर अनुग्रह राशि का भुगतान किया जाना

3843. **श्री नारायण प्रसाद गुप्ता** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री 22 फरवरी, 1994 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न सं० 182 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार एक बार समझौता हो जाने के पश्चात् कामगारों को सभी देय राशियों के शीघ्र भुगतान के लिए रुग्ण वस्त्र मिलों के परिसमापन की कार्यविधि को संशोधन करके रुग्ण औद्योगिक कम्पनी (विशेष उपबंध) अधिनियम, 1985 में ही शामिल करने का विचार रखती है?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी) : स्वैच्छिक सेवानिवृत्ति योजना सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उद्यमों की फालतू जन-शक्ति को कम करने के लिए शुरू की गई है तथा इसका उन वस्त्र मिलों के कामगारों को अन्तिम बकाया राशि का भुगतान करने से कोई सरोकार नहीं है जोकि परिसमापन का सामना कर रही हैं।